

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19 NIC-01 OMB-01 OPR-02

DRC-01 /156 W

----- 101942

R 161320Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2536

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 0351

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, ELAB, MZ

SUBJECT: POLITICAL-MILITARY BRIEFING OF MAY 74, 1974

REFS: A) LM 314; B) LM 320; C) LM 323; D) LM 325; E) LM 335

1. ON MAY 14, COL. RAMOS PROVIDED CONSULAR CORPS FIRST MILITARY BRIEFING SINCE APRIL 25 COUP AND, IN SPIRIT OF MORE OPEN DIALOGUE, ENTERTAINED QUESTIONS ON RECENT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS. HE REPORTED OVERALL MILITARY SITUATION DURING PERIOD APRIL 1 - MAY 13 SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH; NO DETECTABLE INCREASE IN BUERRILLA ACTIVITY FOLLOWING APRIL 25 COUP. ONLY POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, AS YET UNCONFIRMED, IS SUSPECTED INTRODUCTION BY FRELIMO OF SAM-7 MISSILE INTO MOZAMBIQUE CONFLICT-- DEVELOPMENT EXPECTED BY PORTUGUESE FORCES SINCE MARCH.

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WM MILITARY SITUATION IN INDIVIDUAL DISTRICTS SUMMARIZED

AS FOLLOWS:

A) NIASA: DECREASE IN ACTIVITY, MAINLY DUE TO LESS EXPLOSIVES. HOWEVER, AFTER LONG ABSENCE, SOME ATTACKS AGAINST POPULATION AROUND VILA CABRAL;

B) CABO DELGADO: SLIGHT INCREASE IN ACTIVITY RESULTING FROM MORE USE OF EXPLOSIVES. MAIN DEVELOPMENT OF INTEREST WAS POSSIBLE USE OF SAM-7 (COL. RAMOS CONVINCED THAT IT WAS) AGAINST DAKOTA PLANE CARRYING FOREIGN MILITARY ATTACHES (REF A).

C) TETE: ACTIVITY STILL LOW. THREE ATTACKS AGAINST PLANES: ONE LIGHT PLANE KNOCKED DOWN AND TWO UNSUCCESSFUL SHOTS AT FIAT FIGHTERS AROUND MUCANHA, POSSIBLY WITH SAM-7 MISSILE.

D) VILA PEREIRA: SITUATION ABOUT SAME AS IN MARCH. MAIN INCIDENTS WERE ATTACKS ON CIVILIAN TRUCKS AND BUS SOUTH OF INCHOPE ON ROAD TO LOURENCO MARQUES (SEE REFS C AND D).

E. BEIRA: HIGHER LEVEL OF ACTIVITY, MAINLY AGAINST SENA POPULATION IN AREA BETWEEN CHEMBA AND SENA.

3. MAIN POINTS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM COL. RAMOS' DISCUSSION OF RECENT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS WERE:

A) WORK GROUP, OF WHICH RAMOS IS MEMBER, ESTABLISHED TO UNDERTAKE MEASURES CALLED FOR BY PROGRAM OF MOVEMENT OF ARMED FORCES. GROUP HAD DIFFICULT TASK SINCE JUNTA HAS AS YET PROVIDED BUT FEW GUIDELINES ON HOW TO IMPLEMENT PROGRAM.

B) CONTROLS TO PREVENT CAPITAL FLIGHT AND SPECULATION WERE ESTABLISHED FOLLOWING COUP BUT WERE GIVEN NO PUBLICITY TO AVOID PUBLIC PANIC.

C) ISSUANCE OF IMPORT LICENSES (BRI'S) WAS LIBERALIZED TO PERMIT INCREASED IMPORTATION OF CONSUMER PRODUCTS IN GREAT DEMAND BY POPULATION.
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D) AD HOC COMMITTEE CREATED TO SAFEGUARD MILITARY SECRETS AND PREVENT INFORMATION ENCOURAGING AGGRESSIVE ACTION BY POPULACE. COMMITTEE DOES NOT EXERCISE PRIOR CENSORSHIP BUT IS AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION WITH NEWS MEDIA ON MATTERS FALLING WITHIN ITS SCOPE. IT ALSO INITIATES SANCTIONS AGAINST NEWS ENTITIES BREAKING RULES BY PUBLISHING AGAINST NEWS ENTITIES BREAKING RULES BY PUBLISHING MILITARY SECRETS

OR INFORMATION OF AGGRESSIVE NATURE -- E.G. TRIBUNA DIRECTOR
WILL BE DISMISSED FOR ALLOWING AGGRESSIVE COMMUNIQUE
ATTRIBUTED INCORRECTLY TO UNIVERSITY TEACHERS TO BE PRINTED.

E) LABOR DEMANDS DO APPEAR TO BE GETTING OUT OF HAND
AND ARE OF CONCERN TO AUTHORITIES. PRESENT MOZAMBIQUE
ECONOMY TOO WEAK TO SATISFY EXCESSIVE DEMANDS. GOVERNMENT
HAS ATTACHED MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES TO STEVEDORES UNION
OF LOURENCO MARQUES AND TO RADIO CLUBE DE MOCAMBIQUE
(SEE REF B) IN ATTEMPT TO REACH CALM, REASONABLE SOLUTION.

F) WHILE FULL REPORT ON BEIRA INCIDENT STILL UNAVAIL-
ABLE, GUMO DIFFICULTIES ARE IN PART TRIBAL. JOANA SIMIAO,
GUMO LEADER FROM MATRILINEAL MACUA TRIBE, WELL-RECEIVED IN
LOURENCO MARQUES WHERE SIGNIFICANT MACUA PRESENCE; IN BEIRA,
POPULATION LARGELY PATRILINEAL AND THEREFORE HOSTILE.
SIMIAO AND GUMO WILL PROBABLY HAVE LARGE SUPPORT IN NAMPULA,
HEARTLAND OF MACUA.

G) JORGE JARDIM PLEA FOLLOWING BEIRA TROUBLES (REF E)
SURPRISED HIGH MOZAMBIQUE OFFICIALS. QUITE POSSIBLE THAT
HE WILL HAVE IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY, POSSIBLY SERVING AS
PORTUGUESE EMISSARY IN FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRELIMO.

H) PORTUGUESE DO NOT EXPECT CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT WITH
FRELIMO FOR LONG TIME. CONSIDERABLE NEGOTIATION WILL HAVE
TO BE UNDERTAKEN FIJST BEFORE COMMON POSITION REACHED.
FRELIMO WILL MAKE SURE NOT TO GIVE UP ADVANTAGES IT HAS
GAINED DURING PAST 13 YEARS STRUGGLE.

I) GOVERNMENT WILL UNDERTAKE INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED
DGS CRIMES IN JUST MANNER AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL
ACCEPT "ORDERS FROM STREET". MOST SERIOUS CHARGES TO DATE
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HAVE BEEN BROUGHT AGAINST DGS AGENTS IN IBO.

J. BISHOP OF NAMPULA IS PROBABLY SENSIBLE ENOUGH TO
KNOW THAT CLIMATE STILL TOO HOT FOR HIM TO RETURN TO
NAMPULA.
VAN OSS

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